

## Chapter 2 Socio-demographic Profile of Massachusetts

Chapter 2 presents socio-demographic data collected by the US Census Bureau and analyzed by the Bureau of Health Statistics, Research, and Evaluation (BHSR&E) of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). These data describe the racial/ethnic distribution of the Massachusetts population and measures of socioeconomic status. This delineation of the Massachusetts population is meant to elucidate the social, economic and cultural context of HIV in the state.

Comparable socioeconomic data for the United States population as a whole are also provided to give a national context for this discussion. These data show that the Massachusetts population has a similar age distribution and a lower percentage of Blacks and Hispanics than the nation. The level of economic disparity across racial and ethnic minorities in Massachusetts is similar to the rest of the United States. In some instances, the disparity across race/ethnicity is greater in Massachusetts than in the nation. For example, in 1990 the median income of Whites was 1.9 times that of Hispanics in Massachusetts, while it was only 1.3 times that of Hispanics in the nation.

“Although race and ethnicity are not risk factors for HIV transmission, they are markers for complex underlying social, economic and cultural factors that affect personal behavior and health. Low socioeconomic status in particular is associated with morbidity and premature mortality: unemployment and poverty are correlated with decreased access to health education, preventive services, and medical care, resulting in increased risk for disease.” (Suggested Guidelines for Developing an Epidemiologic Profile for HIV Prevention Community Planning, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention, May 1998.) As such, the socio-demographic data that follow may help to identify groups at elevated risk of HIV. (Note: Year 2000 U.S. Census data are presented when available. However, not all of the 2000 data have been released and not all of the data are comparable to Census data from earlier years. Therefore, 1990 Census data are presented where Year 2000 data are unavailable.)

<b>Table 2.1 Total Population Demographics: MA and US<sup>1</sup></b>		
<i>1990 and 2000 Census Data</i>		
	<b>MA</b>	<b>US</b>
Total Population 2000	6,349,097	281,421,096
Percent Population Increase 1990-2000	5.5%	13.1%
Persons per Square Mile	809.8	79.6
<sup>1</sup> Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000		

- The total population of MA is 6,349,097.
- MA's growth rate from 1990 to 2000 was less than one-half the rate of the entire US (5.5% to 13.1% respectively).
- MA is a very densely populated state with 809.8 persons per square mile.

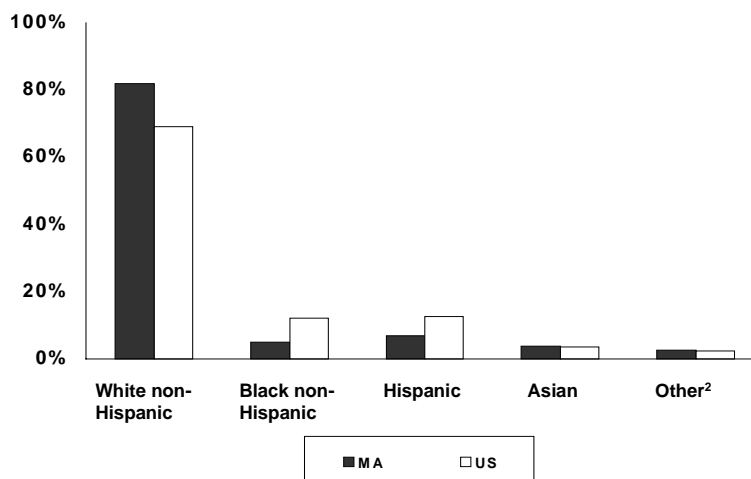
**Table 2.2 Population Demographics - Gender, Age and Race/Ethnicity: MA and US<sup>1</sup>**

*2000 Census Data*

Total Population by Gender:	MA (Number)	MA %	US %
Male	3,058,816	48.2%	49.1%
Female	3,290,281	51.8%	50.9%
Total Population by Age, in Years:	MA (Number)	MA %	US %
Under 15	1,259,376	19.8%	21.4%
15 to 19	415,737	6.5%	7.2%
20 to 24	404,279	6.4%	6.7%
25 to 34	926,788	14.6%	14.2%
35 to 44	1,062,995	16.7%	16.0%
45 to 54	873,535	13.8%	13.4%
55 to 64	546,407	8.6%	8.6%
65 to 74	427,830	6.7%	6.5%
75 to 84	315,640	5.0%	4.4%
85+	116,692	1.8%	1.5%
Total Population by Race/Ethnicity:	MA (Number)	MA %	US %
White (non-Hispanic)	5,198,359	81.9%	69.1%
Black (non-Hispanic)	318,329	5.0%	12.1%
Hispanic/Latino	428,729	6.8%	12.5%
Asian	236,786	3.7%	3.6%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	11,264	0.2%	0.7%
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	1,706	0.0%	0.1%
Persons reporting some other race	43,586	0.7%	0.2%
Persons reporting two or more races	110,338	1.7%	1.6%
<sup>1</sup> Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000			

- The MA population is slightly older than that of the US as a whole.
- The greatest percentage of people in both MA and the US are 35 to 44 years of age.
- About 82% of all MA residents identify themselves as White non-Hispanic, nearly 7% are Hispanic or Latino, 5% are Black non-Hispanic, and 1.7% report they belong to two or more racial groups.

**Figure 2.1 Total Population by Race/Ethnicity:  
MA and US, 2000<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Data Source: US Census Bureau ; <sup>2</sup> "Other" includes Native American/Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander/Hawaiian, people of Other races and people who report more than one race.

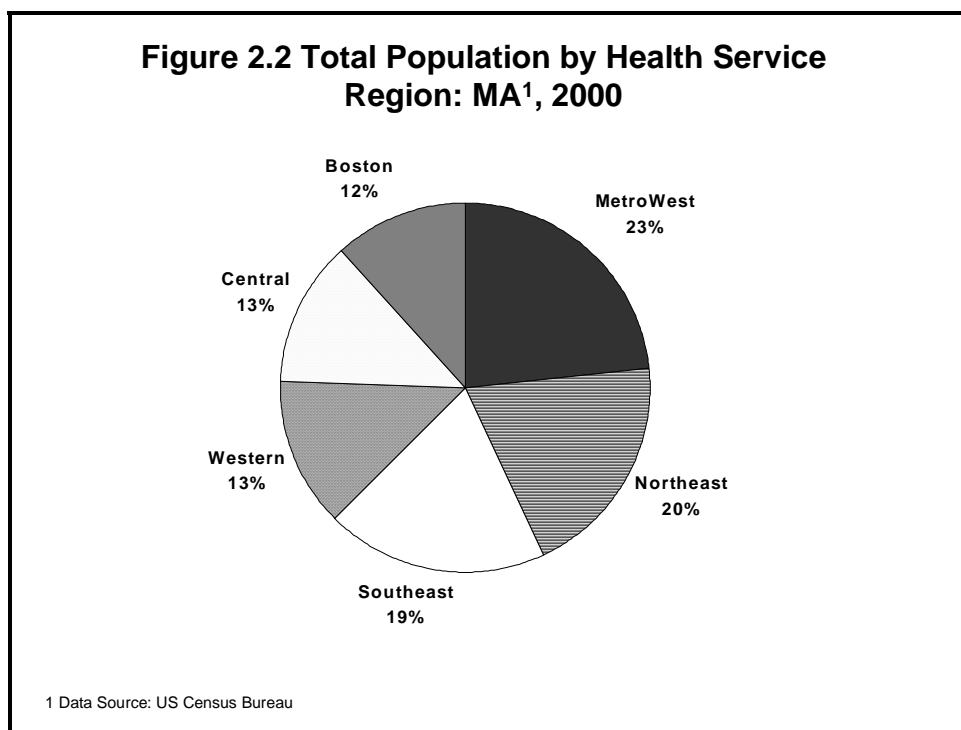
- In terms of the racial distribution of its residents, MA has a much more homogenous population than the US as a whole. (See Figure 2.1)

See Appendix II for EOHHS Health Service Region Maps

**Table 2.3 Total Population by EOHHS<sup>1</sup> Health Service  
Region: MA<sup>2,3</sup>  
2000 Census Data**

EOHHS Health Service Region:	MA (Number)	MA %
Region 1: Western MA	822,838	13.0%
Region 2: Central MA	806,015	12.7%
Region 3: Northeast	1,255,346	19.8%
Region 4: Metrowest	1,479,930	23.3%
Region 5: Southeast	1,238,054	19.5%
Region 6: Boston Region	746,914	11.8%
<b>MA Total</b>	<b>6,349,097</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) of the Commonwealth of MA  
<sup>2</sup> Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file  
<sup>3</sup> For Health Service Region populations by race/ethnicity see Localities chapter



- The Metrowest region, which includes the cities of Cambridge, Framingham, Braintree and Quincy, has the largest proportion of the MA population (23.3%) followed by the Northeast (19.8%) and Southeast (19.5%). (See Figure 2.2)

**Table 2.4 Total Population by Health Service Region (HSR) and Race/Ethnicity: Western HSR, MA**  
*2000 Census Data*

Race/Ethnicity	Total Population	Percent of Total Population
White, Non-Hispanic	677,896	82%
Black, Non-Hispanic	39,995	5%
Hispanic	78,288	10%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13,358	2%
American Indian	1,374	0%
Other	1,047	0%
Reporting more than one Race/Ethnicity	10,880	1%
<b>Western Massachusetts Total</b>	<b>822,838</b>	

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file

- The Western Massachusetts HSR has the second largest proportion of Hispanic population of all the HSRs, after the Boston HSR, at 10 percent.

**Table 2.5 Total Population by Health Service Region (HSR) and Race/Ethnicity: Central HSR, MA**

*2000 Census Data*

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Percent of Total Population</b>
White, Non-Hispanic	703,146	87%
Black, Non-Hispanic	19,303	2%
Hispanic	51,539	6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	18,322	2%
American Indian	1,796	0%
Other	1,743	0%
Reporting more than one Race/Ethnicity	10,166	1%
<b>Central Massachusetts Total</b>	<b>806,015</b>	

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file

- The Central HSR has the lowest overall proportion of people of color across HSRs.

**Table 2.6 Total Population by Health Service Region (HSR) and Race/Ethnicity: Northeast HSR, MA**

*2000 Census Data*

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Percent of Total Population</b>
White, Non-Hispanic	1,043,640	83%
Black, Non-Hispanic	29,965	2%
Hispanic	105,727	8%
Asian/Pacific Islander	52,846	4%
American Indian	1,573	0%
Other	3,207	0%
Reporting more than one Race/Ethnicity	18,388	1%
<b>Northeast Total</b>	<b>1,255,346</b>	

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file

- The Northeast HSR has relatively large Asian and Hispanic populations (8% and 4%, respectively).
- The Northeast HSR has a lower proportion of Blacks than the state as a whole.

**Table 2.7 Total Population by Health Service Region (HSR) and Race/Ethnicity: Metrowest HSR, MA**

*2000 Census Data*

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Percent of Total Population</b>
White, Non-Hispanic	1,266,840	86%
Black, Non-Hispanic	46,653	3%
Hispanic	49,719	3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	85,114	6%
American Indian	1,635	0%
Other	6,737	0%
Reporting more than one Race/Ethnicity	23,232	2%
<b>Metrowest Total</b>	<b>1,479,930</b>	

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file

- The Metrowest HSR has proportionately fewer people of color than the State.

**Table 2.8 Total Population by Health Service Region (HSR) and Race/Ethnicity: Southeast HSR, MA**

*2000 Census Data*

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Percent of Total Population</b>
White Non-Hispanic	1102380	89%
Black, Non-Hispanic	37,095	3%
Hispanic	34,407	3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13,053	1%
American Indian	3,330	0%
Other	21,860	2%
Reporting more than one Race/Ethnicity	25,929	2%
<b>Southeast Total</b>	<b>1,238,054</b>	

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file

- The Southeast HSR has the largest proportional majority White population of all the HSRs, at 89 percent.

**Table 2.9 Total Population by Health Service Region (HSR) and Race/Ethnicity: Boston HSR, MA**

*2000 Census Data*

<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Total Population</b>	<b>Percent of Total Population</b>
White, Non-Hispanic	404,457	54%
Black, Non-Hispanic	145,318	19%
Hispanic	109,049	15%
Asian/Pacific Islander	55,601	7%
American Indian	1,754	0%
Other	8,992	1%
Reporting more than one Race/Ethnicity	21,743	3%
<b>Boston Region Total</b>	<b>746,914</b>	

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000 PL 94-171 redistricting file

- The Boston Region HSR has the smallest proportion of White population and the largest proportions of Black, Hispanic, and Asian people of all the HSRs.

**Table 2.10 Total non-US Born Population: MA and US<sup>1,2</sup>**

*1990 and 2000 Census Data*

<b>Total non-US Born Population:</b>	<b>MA (1990)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>US (1990)</b>	<b>US (2000)</b>
Total non-US born population count	573,733	19,800,000	28,400,000
Percent of total population who are non-US born	9.5%	7.9%	10.4%
<b>Total non-US Born by Region of Birth:</b>	<b>MA (1990)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>US (1990)</b>	<b>US (2000)</b>
Europe	42.1%	22.0%	15.3%
Asia	20.3%	25.2%	25.5%
Africa	3.8%	(NA)	(NA)
Latin America <sup>4</sup>	20.5%	42.5%	51.0%
Central America	4.2%	(NA)	34.5%
South America	4.8%	(NA)	6.6%
Caribbean	11.5%	(NA)	9.9%
<b>Other Regions</b>	<b>13.2%<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>10.3%<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>8.1%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 Census

<sup>2</sup> Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS) March 2000

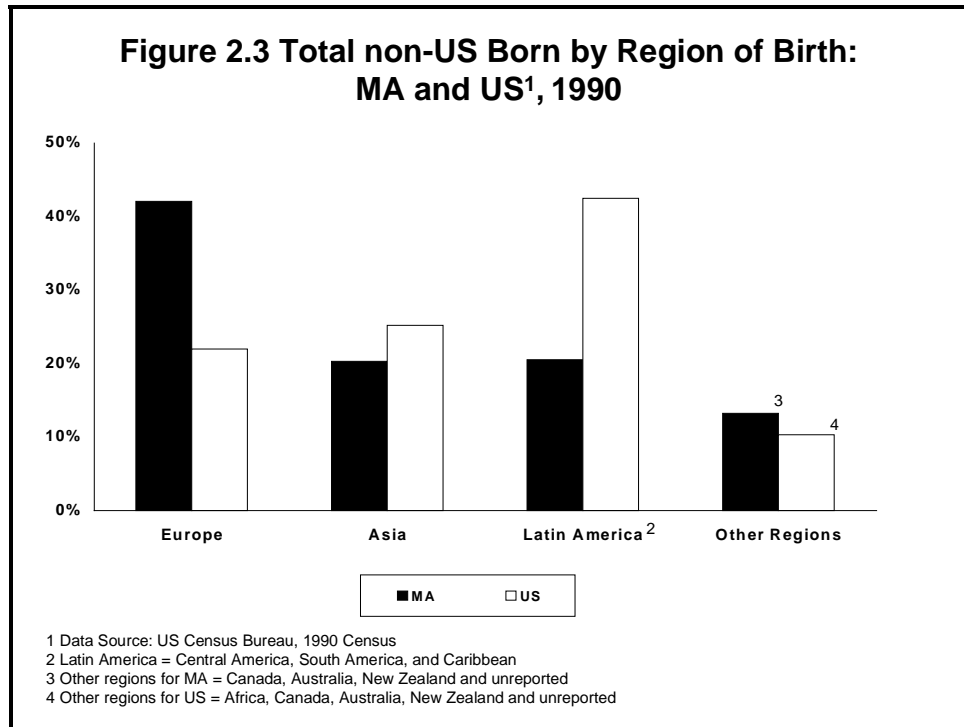
<sup>3</sup> This table presents 1990 data for MA because 2000 data has not yet been released by the US Census Bureau

<sup>4</sup> Latin America = Central America, South American, and Caribbean

<sup>5</sup> Other regions for Massachusetts include: Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and unreported

<sup>6</sup> Other Regions for USA include: Africa, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and unreported

- In 1990 (most recent data available for MA), there were 573,733 MA residents (9.5%) who were born outside of the United States.
- 3.8% of non-US born MA residents are from Africa.



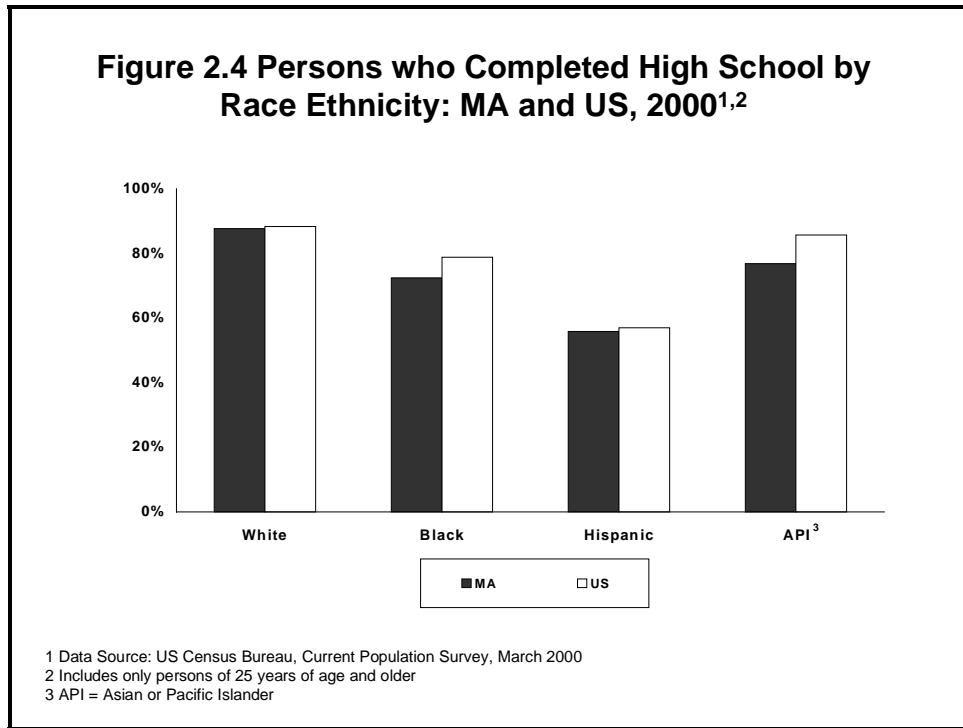
- 42% of non-US born MA residents are from Europe. (See Figure 2.3)
- About one-fifth (20.5%) of non-US born MA residents are from Latin America and another one-fifth (20.3%) are from Asia. (See Figure 2.3)
- Of Latin American born MA residents, the majority are from the Caribbean (56%) with smaller numbers from South and Central America (23% and 20%, respectively).



<b>Table 2.11 Educational Attainment by Gender and Race Ethnicity for Persons 25 Years of Age and Older: MA and US<sup>1</sup></b> <i>2000 Census Data</i>		
	<b>MA %</b>	<b>US %</b>
Percent who Completed High School	85.1%	84.0%
<b>By Gender:</b>		
Male	85.1%	84.2%
Female	85.0%	84.0%
<b>By Race/Ethnicity:</b>		
White (non-Hispanic)	87.6%	88.4%
Black	72.3%	78.9%
Hispanic	55.8%	57.0%
Asian and Pacific Islander	76.8%	85.7%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	-	(NA)
Percent with Bachelor's Degree or More	32.7%	26.0%
<b>By Gender:</b>		
Male	36.5%	27.8%
Female	29.2%	23.6%
<b>By Race/Ethnicity:</b>		
White (non-Hispanic)	34.4%	28.1%
Black	12.3%	16.6%
Hispanic	8.8%	10.6%
Asian and Pacific Islander	50.7%	43.9%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	-	-
<sup>1</sup> Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), March 2000		

### High School Diploma

- Nearly the same percentage of people completed high school in MA as in the US as a whole (85% and 84%, respectively).



- Disparities exist in high school completion rates by race and Hispanic ethnicity. According to responses to the 2000 U.S. Census, only 56% of Hispanic residents in MA have completed high school. The rate of high school completion among Hispanics is lower than in any other racial and/or ethnic group. (See *Figure 2.4*)

### **Bachelors Degree or more**

- 33% of MA residents age 25 years and over have received a bachelors degree and/or another advanced degree
- MA has a higher percentage of college graduates than the US as a whole (33% and 26%, respectively).

**Table 2.12 Housing Demographics: MA and US<sup>1</sup>**  
*2000 Census Data*

	<b>MA</b>	<b>US</b>
Total Housing Units	2,621,989	115,904,941
Owner-occupied Housing Units	61.7%	66.2%
Renter-occupied Housing Units	38.3%	33.8%
Homeowner Vacancy Rate	0.7%	1.7%
Rental Vacancy Rate	3.5%	6.8%
1 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000		

- There are 2,621,989 housing units in the Commonwealth.
- Of the 2.6 million MA housing units about 62% are owner occupied and 38% are renter occupied.
- The MA homeowner vacancy rate (0.7%) is very small and is one percent less than the national homeowner vacancy rate. The rental vacancy rate is also relatively small (3.5%) and about half that of the US.

**Table 2.13 Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity: MA and US<sup>1,2</sup>**  
*1990 and 2000 Census Data*

	<b>MA<sup>3,4</sup> (1990)</b>	<b>US<sup>3</sup> (1990)</b>	<b>US<sup>5,6</sup> (2000)</b>
White (non-Hispanic)	\$38,371	\$31,672	\$44,366
Black	\$25,402	\$19,758	\$27,910
Hispanic <sup>7</sup>	\$19,726	\$24,156	\$30,735
Asian and Pacific Islander	\$34,706	\$36,784	\$51,205
American Indian and Alaskan Native	\$22,762	\$20,025	\$30,784 <sup>8</sup>
<b>Total Median Income</b>	<b>\$38,083</b>	<b>\$30,056</b>	<b>\$40,816</b>

1 Income includes both households and people as of March of the following year

2 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS) March 1990, 1999 and 2000

3 Median income in 1989 dollars

4 This table presents 1990 data for MA because 2000 data has not yet been released by the US Census Bureau

5 Median household income in 1999 dollars

6 Because US (2000) income is in 1999 dollars it is not directly comparable to MA and US 1990 income information.

7 Hispanic may be of any race other than White

8 Estimated income for American Indians and Alaskan Natives is based on a 3-year average (1997-1999)

- The median household income for MA in 1990 was \$38,083, which was \$8,000 greater than the US median income.
- In 1990, White MA residents of non-Hispanic origin had the greatest median income (\$38,371) followed by Asian and Pacific Islanders (\$34,706).
- In MA, the difference between the highest and lowest median incomes was \$18,645 (1989 dollars), consistent with large disparities in the distribution of wealth across MA's racial and ethnic populations.
- NOTE: Because of differences in data reporting methods between the 1990 and 2000 Census, it is difficult to compare median household incomes for the two points in time.

**Table 2.14 Percent of Persons below the Federal Poverty Level by Race/Ethnicity: MA and US<sup>1,2,3</sup>**  
*1990 and 2000 Census Data*

	MA (1990)	US (1990) <sup>4</sup>	US (2000)
White (non-Hispanic)	7.0%	9.2%	7.7%
Black	23.3%	29.5%	23.6%
Hispanic <sup>5</sup>	37.4%	25.3%	22.8%
Asian and Pacific Islander	20.4%	14.1%	10.7%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	25.9%	30.9%	25.9% <sup>6</sup>
<b>Total Percent below Poverty Level</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>11.8%</b>

1 Poverty by race/ethnicity is calculated for people of all ages below the Federal poverty level for whom poverty status is determined

2 Data Source: US Census Bureau, 1990 Census

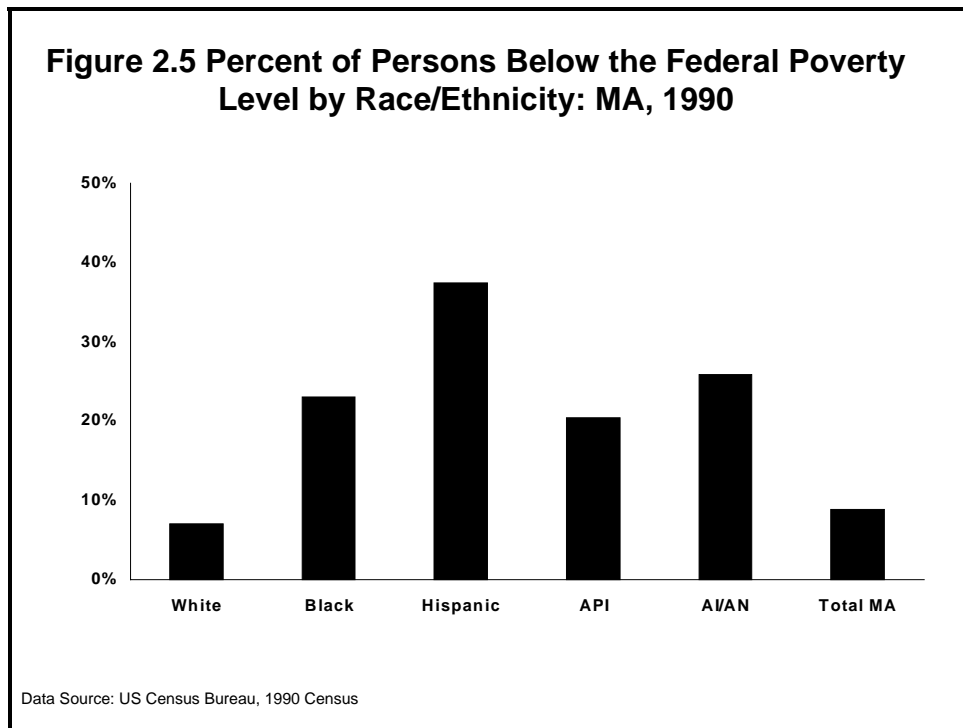
3 Data Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS) March 1999 and 2000

4 This table presents 1990 data for MA because 2000 data has not yet been released by the US Census Bureau

5 Hispanic may be of any race other than White

6 American Indian and Alaskan Native percent is based on estimated 3-year average (1997-1999)

- In 1990, MA had a lower percentage of people living below the Federal poverty level compared to the US (8.9% and 13.1%, respectively).



- In 1990, the percentage of minority populations in poverty was approximately three times higher than that of White non-Hispanics.

<b>Table 2.15 Massachusetts State Health Profile<sup>1,2,3</sup></b>		
<i>1999 MA data vs. 1998 US Data 2000</i>		
<b>Health Status Indicator</b>		
<b>Deaths<sup>5</sup>:</b>	<b>MA (1999)</b>	<b>US (1998)<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>Mortality Rate</b> (per 100,000 residents)	815.9	875.4
<b>Life Expectancy</b> (years of life remaining at birth)	78.4 years	76.7 years
<b>Births:</b>	<b>MA (1999)</b>	<b>US (1998)<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>Infant Mortality</b> (per 1,000 live births)	5.2	7.2
White non-Hispanic IMR	4.7	6.0
Black non-Hispanic IMR	12.3	13.9
Hispanic IMR	5.5	5.8
<b>Teen Birth Rate</b> (Births per 1,000 females 15-19 years)	26.6	49.6
<b>Prenatal Care in First Trimester</b>	84.3%	83.2%
<b>Health Insurance:</b>	<b>MA (1999)</b>	<b>US (1998)<sup>4</sup></b>
<b>Uninsured adults</b> (18-64 years)	10.3%	16.3%
<p>1 Deaths Source: Massachusetts Deaths 1999, Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Bureau of Health Statistics, Research, and Evaluation (BHSR&amp;E), March 2001</p> <p>2 Births Source: Massachusetts Births 1999, , Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Bureau of Health Statistics, Research, and Evaluation (BHSR&amp;E), January 2001</p> <p>3 Health Insurance Source: US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), March 2000</p> <p>4 This table presents 1998 data for US because 1999 data has not yet been released</p> <p>5 All Death rates are comparability unmodified age-adjusted rates per 100,000 residents using the 2000 US Standard population</p> <p>IMR = Infant Mortality Rate</p>		

- In general, MA has better health parameters than the US as a whole.
- In 1999, the mortality rate was about 816 deaths per 100,000 population. This is below the national mortality rate of 875 deaths per 100,000 population.
- In addition, the life expectancy of MA residents from birth is longer (78.4 years) than that of the US as a whole (76.7 years).
- With regard to birth health indicators, MA has a low overall infant mortality rate (5.2 deaths per 1,000 live births). However, disparities exist among racial groups.
- The IMR for Black MA residents (12.3 infant deaths per 1000 live births) is more than twice as high as that for Whites (4.7/1,000 births) and Hispanics (5.2/1,000 births).

- MA has one of the lowest teen birth rates in the country with 27 births per 1,000 women in the 15-19 year age group (teenagers). This is about half the national teen birth rate.
- Over 84% of MA's pregnant women receive prenatal care in their first trimester, which is slightly greater than the national percentage.
- Regarding health insurance, MA has a much lower proportion of uninsured adults than the US as a whole (10% and 16% respectively).

